64th Season. 615th Concert.

Handel and Haydn Society.

BOSTON MUSIC HALL,

EASTER SUNDAY,

APRIL 13, 1879,

At 7.30 P. M.

SIXTEENTH PERFORMANCE OF HANDEL'S

JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

Miss FANNY KELLOGG, Soprano.

Miss EDITH ABELL, Mezzo Soprano.

Mr. W. COURTNEY, Tenor.

Mr. MYRON W. WHITNEY, Bass.

Mr. B. J. LANG, Organist.

Mr. CARL ZERRAHN, Conductor.

Friday, May 2. Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. Complimentary Benefit of Mr. CARL ZERRAHN, in commemoration of the completion of his twenty-fifth year as director of the Handel and Haydn Society. Sale of tickets will begin April 14.

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL.

BORN AT HALLE, FEBRUARY 23, 1685. DIED AT LONDON, APRIL 13, 1759.

JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

Composed between July 9 and August 11, 1741. Produced at Covent-Garden Theatre, London, under Handel's direction, April 1, 1747. The text by Thomas Morell. First performance by Handel and Haydn Society December 5, 1847, at the Melodeon.

ARGUMENT.

PART I.—Lamentations for the death of Mattathias, father of Judas Maccabæus and Simon, by whom the Jewish people had been roused to resist the cruelties and oppressions of Antiochus Epiphanes, the Syrian king, in his attempt to suppress their religion and liberties. The divine favor invoked. Judas recognized as leader. Appeal to the patriotism of the people and their response. The value of liberty. Preparations for war. Pious trust in God, and heroic resolve to conquer or die.

PART II.—Celebration of the victories gained over the armies of Apollonius, the Governor of Samaria, and Seron, the Deputy-Governor of Cœlesyria, and the valor of Judas. Renewal of war by a division of the Syrian army from Egypt, under Gorgias, and the despondency it occasions among the Israelites. Judas again arouses the failing courage of the people, and they set out to meet the enemy. Those who remain behind utter their detestation of the heathen idolatries, by which the sanctuary at Jerusalem had been desecrated, and their determination to worship only the God of Israel.

PART III.—Feast of the Dedication, at Jerusalem, after Judas and his followers had recovered and restored the sanctuary, and re-established the liberties of his country. Return of Judas from his final victory over Nicanor and his confederates. Celebration of peace and national thanksgiving.—*See 1 Maccabees, Chapters i to ix.*

PERSONAGES:

JUDAS MACCABÆUS	TENOR.	A PRIEST	ALTO.
SIMON	BASS.	AN ISRAELITISH MESSENGER	TENOR.
EUPOLEMUS	BASS.	ISRAELITISH MEN AND WOMEN.	

PART THE FIRST.

OVERTURE. *Largo. Allegro.*

SCENE. *Modin.* ISRAELITES, *Men and Women, lamenting the death of* MATTATHIAS, *Father of* JUDAS MACCABÆUS.

CHORUS. Mourn, ye afflicted children, the remains
Of captive Judah, mourn in solemn strains;
Your sanguine hopes of liberty give o'er;
Your hero, friend, and father is no more.

RECITATIVE. *Simon.* Not vain is all this storm of grief:
To vent our sorrows gives relief.
Wretched indeed! but let not Judah's race
Their ruin with desponding arms embrace.
Distractful doubt and desperation
Ill become the chosen nation,—
Chosen by the Great *I Am*,
The Lord of Hosts, who still the same
We trust will give attentive ear
To the sincerity of prayer.

AIR. *Israelitish Woman.* Pious orgies, pious airs,
Decent sorrow, decent prayers.
Will to the Lord ascend, and move
His pity, and regain His love.

CHORUS. O Father! whose Almighty power
The heavens and earth and seas adore,
The hearts of Judah Thy delight,
In one defensive band unite;
And grant a leader bold and brave,
If not to conquer, born to save.

RECITATIVE. *Simon.* I feel the Deity within,
Who the bright cherubim between
His radiant glory erst displayed.
To Israel's distressful prayer
He hath vouchsafed a gracious ear,
And points out Maccabæus to their aid.
Judas shall set the captive free,
And lead us on to victory.

AIR. *Simon.* Arm, arm, ye brave! a noble cause,
The cause of Heaven, your zeal demands;
In defence of your nation, religion, and laws,
The Almighty Jehovah will strengthen your hands.

CHORUS. We come, we come, in bright array,
Judah, thy sceptre to obey.

RECITATIVE. *Judas.* 'Tis well, my friends: with transport I behold
The spirit of our fathers, famed of old
For their exploits in war. Oh! may their fire
With active courage you, their sons, inspire,
As when the mighty Joshua fought,
And those amazing wonders wrought,
Stood still, obedient to his voice, the sun,
Till kings he had destroyed, and kingdoms won.

AIR. *Judas.* Call forth thy powers, my soul, and dare
The conflict of unequal war!
Great is the glory of the conquering sword,
That triumphs in sweet liberty restored.

RECITATIVE. *Israelitish Woman.* To heaven's almighty King we kneel,
For blessings on this exemplary zeal.
Bless him, Jehovah, bless him! and once more
To thy own Israel, liberty restore.

AIR. *Israelitish Woman.* Come, ever-smiling Liberty,
And with thee bring thy jocund train;
For thee we pant, and sigh for thee,
With whom eternal pleasures reign.

CHORUS. Lead on, lead on! Judah disdains
The galling load of hostile chains.

RECITATIVE. *Judas.* So willed my father, now at rest
In the eternal mansions of the blest.
"Can ye behold," said he, "the miseries
In which the long-insulted Judah lies,
Can ye behold the dire distress,
And not at least attempt redress?"
Then faintly, with expiring breath,
"Resolve, my sons, on liberty or death."
We come! Oh, see thy sons prepare
The rough habiliments of war,
With hearts intrepid, and revengeful hands
To execute, O sire, thy dread commands.

CHORUS. Disdainful of danger, we'll rush on the foe,
That thy power, O Jehovah, all nations may know.

RECITATIVE. *Judas.* Haste we, my brethren, haste we to the field,
Dependent on the Lord, our strength and shield.

CHORUS. Hear us, O Lord! on thee we call,
Resolved on conquest or a glorious fall.

PART THE SECOND.

SCENE. *Modin. The* ISRAELITES *celebrating the return of* JUDAS *from the victories over* APOLLONIUS *and* SERON.

CHORUS. Fall'n is the foe! So fall Thy foes, O Lord!
Where warlike Judas wields his righteous sword.

RECITATIVE. *Israelitish Woman.* Well may we hope our freedom to receive,
Such sweet, transporting joys thy actions give.

DUET. CHORUS. Sion now her head shall raise;
Tune your harps to songs of praise!

RECITATIVE. *Israelitish Woman.* Oh, let eternal honors crown his name,
Judas, first worthy on the rolls of fame.
He put on the breastplate like a giant,
And girt his warlike harness about him.
In his acts he was like a lion,
And like a lion's whelp roaring for his prey!

AIR. *Israelitish Woman.* From mighty kings he took the spoil,
And with his acts made Judah smile;
Judah rejoiceth in his name,
And triumphs in her hero's fame.

DUET. CHORUS. Hail, Judea, happy land,
Salvation prospers in his hand.

RECITATIVE. *Judas.* Thanks to my brethren; but look up to Heaven!
To Heav'n let glory and all praise be giv'n;
To Heav'n give your applause, nor add the second cause,
As once your fathers did in Midian,
Saying "The sword of God and Gideon."
It was the Lord that for His Israel fought,
And this our wonderful salvation wrought.

AIR. *Judas.* How vain is man, who boasts in fight
The valor of gigantic might,
And dreams not that a hand unseen
Directs and guides this weak machine.

RECITATIVE. *Messenger.* O Judas! O my brethren!
New scenes of bloody war in all their horrors rise!
Prepare, or soon we fall a sacrifice
To great Antiochus; from the Egyptian coast
(Where Ptolemy had Memphis and Pelusium lost),
He sends the valiant Gorgias, and commands
His proud, victorious bands
To root out Israel's strength, and to erase
Every memorial of the sacred place.

RECITATIVE. *Simon.* Be comforted, nor think these plagues are sent
For your destruction, but for chastisement!
Heav'n oft in mercy punisheth, that sin
May feel its own demerits from within,
And urge not utter ruin.
Turn to God, and draw a blessing
From His iron rod.

AIR. *Simon.* The Lord worketh wonders,
His glory to raise,
And still as He thunders,
Is fearful in praise.

RECITATIVE. *Judas.* My arms! Against this Gorgias will I go.
The Idumean governor shall know
How vain, how ineffective his design,
While rage his leader, and Jehovah mine.

AIR. *Judas.* Sound an alarm! Your silver trumpets sound,
And call the brave, and only brave, around.
Who listeth, follow to the field again.
Justice with courage is a thousand men.

Chorus. We hear the pleasing, dreadful call,
And follow thee to conquest; if to fall,
For laws, religion, liberty, we fall.

RECITATIVE. *Israelitish Woman.* No more in Sion let the virgin throng
With wild delusion pay their nightly song
To Ashtoreth, yclept the Queen of Heaven.
Hence to Phœnicia be the goddess driven!
Or be she with her priests and pageants hurled
To the remotest corner of the world,
Ne'er to delude us more with pious lies.

AIR. *Israelitish Woman.* Wise men, flattering, may deceive you
With their vain, mysterious art;
Magic charms can ne'er relieve you,
Nor can heal the wounded heart;
But true wisdom can relieve you, —
God-like wisdom from above;
This alone can ne'er deceive you,
This alone all pains remove.

DUET. *Israelitish Women.* Oh! never, never bow we down
To the rude stock or sculptured stone,
But ever worship Israel's God,
Ever obedient to His awful nod.

CHORUS. We never will bow down
To the rude stock or sculptured stone;
We worship God, and God alone.

PART THE THIRD.

SCENE I. *Mount Sion.* ISRAELITISH PRIESTS, *etc., having recovered the Sanctuary.*

AIR. *Priest.* Father of Heaven! from thy eternal throne
Look with an eye of blessing down,
While we prepare with holy rites
To solemnize the Feast of Lights,
And thus our grateful hearts employ,
And in thy praise
This altar raise
With carols of triumphant joy.

RECITATIVE. *Israelitish Woman.* Oh! grant it, Heaven, that our long woes may cease,
And Judah's daughters taste the calm of peace;
Sons, brothers, husbands, to bewail no more,
Tortured at home, or havocked in the war.

AIR. *Israelitish Woman.* So shall the lute and harp awake,
And sprightly voice sweet descant run,
Seraphic melody to make
In the pure strains of Jesse's son.

SCENE II. *Near Jerusalem.* ISRAELITISH YOUTHS AND MAIDENS *meeting* JUDAS *on his return from the victory over* NICANOR.

TRIO. *Youths.* See! the conquering hero comes!
Sound the trumpets, beat the drums;
Sports prepare, the laurel bring,
Songs of triumph to him sing.

CHORUS. *Maidens.* See the god-like youth advance!
Breathe the flutes, and lead the dance;
Myrtle wreaths and roses twine
To deck the hero's brow divine.

FULL CHORUS. See! the conquering hero, *etc.*

TRIUMPHAL MARCH. *Allegro.*

SCENE III. *Jerusalem. A Public Place.* ISRAELITES *meeting* EUPOLEMUS, *the Jewish Ambassador to Rome.*

RECITATIVE. *Eupolemus.* Peace to my countrymen,
Peace and liberty!
From the great senate of imperial Rome
With a firm league of amity I come.
Rome, whate'er nation dare insult us more,
Will rouse in our defence her veteran powers,
And stretch her vengeful arm, by land and sea.
"To curb the proud, and set the injured free."

DUET. *Israelitish Women.* O lovely Peace, with plenty crowned,
Come spread thy blessings all around;
Let fleecy flocks the hills adorn,
And valleys smile with wavy corn!

AIR. *Simon.* Rejoice, O Judah, and in songs divine,
With cherubim and seraphim harmonious join.

CHORUS. Rejoice, O Judah, and in songs divine,
With cherubim and seraphim harmonious join.

HALLELUJAH! AMEN.

THE complimentary benefit tendered to Mr. CARL ZERRAHN, in commemoration of the completion of his twenty-fifth year as conductor for the Society, will take place at MUSIC HALL, FRIDAY EVENING, May 2, 1879. Mendelssohn's oratorio of

ELIJAH

will be performed, with the assistance of the following soloists, who have generously offered their services: —

MRS. JULIA HOUSTON WEST.
MRS. H. M. SMITH.
MRS. J. W. WESTON.
MISS ABBY WHINNERY.
MISS FANNY KELLOGG.
MISS SARAH C. FISHER.
MRS. H. E. H. CARTER.
MISS H. A. RUSSELL.
MRS. H. E SAWYER.
MISS ITA WELSH.
MRS. A. G. SPRING.
MRS. ABBY CLARK FORD.
MRS. C. C. NOYES.

MRS. J. R. ELLISON.
MASTER WILLIAM H. LEE.
MR. W. J. WINCH.
MR. W. H. FESSENDEN.
MR. ALFRED WILKIE.
MR. J. C. COLLINS.
MR. J. C. BARTLETT.
MR. C. H CLARK.
MR. M. W. WHITNEY.
MR. JOHN F. WINCH.
MR. A. C RYDER.
MR. C. E. HAY.
MR. D. M. BABCOCK.